

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Rick Jore, on March 7, 2007 at 3:01 P.M., in Room 137 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Rick Jore, Chairman (C)  
Rep. Roger Koopman, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Holly Raser, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)  
Rep. Douglas Cordier (D)  
Rep. George Everett (R)  
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)  
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Bob Lake (R)  
Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R)  
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

##### **Members Absent:**

Rep. John Ward (R)  
Rep. Michael Lange (R)  
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)

##### **Staff Present:**

Donci Bardash, Committee Secretary  
Susan Fox, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 12, SB 16, 2/28/2007  
Executive Action: HB 479, HB 691

**PRESENTATION ON MONTANA SMALL SCHOOLS ALLIANCE**

00:01:57 Claudette Morton, Montana Small Schools Alliance

**HEARING ON SB 12**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:04:00 Sen. Carol Williams (D), SD 46, opened the hearing on  
SB 12, Revise community college funding.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:06:20 Sen. Rick Laible, SD 44, Darby  
00:08:22 Jane Karas, Flathead Valley Community College  
00:09:47 Stephanie Hicswa, Miles Community College  
00:10:08 Jim Cargill, Dawson Community College  
00:10:35 Sheila Stearns, Commissioner of Higher Education  
00:11:38 Carl Schweitzer, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce  
00:12:04 Terri Minnow, MEA-MFT

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:13:07 Sen. Williams

**HEARING ON SB 16**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:14:12 Sen. Bob Hawks (D), SD 33, opened the hearing on  
SB 16, 6-mill levy for university system referendum.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:17:18 Ms. Stearns  
00:19:05 Bud Williams, Office of Public Instruction  
00:20:18 Ms. Karas  
00:20:39 Cathy Conover, Montana University System  
00:21:11 Ms. Minnow  
00:21:47 Denver Henderson, Students of the University of Montana  
00:24:01 Scott Martin, Students of Montana State University  
00:25:51 Jessica LaRoche, Students of MSU-Bozeman

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:26:55 Rep. Wilmer  
00:27:19 Mr. Williams  
00:28:06 Rep. Wilmer  
00:28:10 Mr. Williams

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:28:47 Sen. Hawks

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 479**

00:33:28 **Motion:** Rep. Raser moved that **HB 479 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

00:33:41 Rep. Jore  
00:33:44 Rep. Raser  
00:35:07 Rep. Jore  
00:35:45 Rep. Raser  
00:36:26 Rep. Cordier  
00:37:20 Rep. Raser  
00:37:33 Rep. Wilmer  
00:38:02 Rep. Lake  
00:40:34 Rep. Raser  
00:44:23 Rep. Butcher  
00:48:09 Rep. Jore  
00:49:47 Rep. Grinde  
00:50:06 Rep. Everett  
00:51:10 Rep. Raser  
00:54:52 Rep. Butcher  
00:55:06 Rep. Raser  
00:55:26 Rep. Butcher  
00:56:11 Rep. Wilmer

00:57:22 **Vote:** The motion failed 7-8 by roll call vote with Reps. Raser, Wilmer, Cordier, O'Hara, Grinde, Hamilton, and Bixby voting aye. Reps. Ward, Lange and Bixby voted by proxy.

00:58:21 **Motion/ Vote:** Rep. Butcher moved that the **VOTE BE REVERSED AND THE BILL TABLED.** The motion carried 7-5 by voice vote with Reps. Grinde, Hamilton, Wilmer, Cordier, and Raser voting no.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 691**

00:59:06 **Motion:** Rep. Raser moved that **HB 691 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

00:59:26 Rep. Lake  
01:01:22 Rep. Jore  
01:01:31 Rep. Hamilton  
01:02:19 Rep. Jore  
01:02:29 Rep. Lake  
01:03:52 Rep. Butcher  
01:04:09 Rep. Lake  
01:04:40 Rep. Jore  
01:05:51 Rep. Lake  
01:06:21 Rep. Butcher

01:09:18 **Vote:** The motion failed 5-10 by roll call vote with Reps. Raser, Lake, Grinde, Hamilton and Bixby voting aye. Reps. Ward, Lange and Bixby voted by proxy.

01:10:22 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Butcher moved that the **VOTE BE REVERSED AND THE BILL TABLED.** The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

01:10:43 Adjournment: 4:12 P.M.

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REP. RICK JORE, Chairman

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DONCI BARDASH, Secretary

RJ/db

**ADJOURNMENT**

01:10:43 Adjournment: 4:12 P.M.

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REP. RICK JORE, Chairman

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DONCI BARDASH, Secretary

RJ/db

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([edh48aad.pdf](#))**